

Tennessee Warbler was almost common in the *village* of Litchfield during the nine days from May 19 to 27 inclusive this last spring. Litchfield is situated on a high ridge, along the crest of which runs the main street, bordered with tall elms. To these trees and to those in the grounds about the houses close to the street the birds seemed to be restricted; for though I was in the field every day throughout the migration, I did not see or hear one outside of the village. I secured five on different days within that time out of one tree in our own grounds, and heard or saw several others in the neighboring yards.—EDWARD SEYMOUR WOODRUFF, *Litchfield, Conn.*

Two Records for Colorado.—FLICKER. *Colaptes auratus*.—Oct. 24, 1904, I obtained in Hall Valley, Park Co., Colorado, a specimen of the eastern Flicker showing not a trace of hybridization with the Red-shafted Flicker. This is the first record for this bird in our State at such an altitude, this specimen being taken at an altitude of 10,000 feet.

CANVAS-BACK. *Aythya vallisneria*.—July 4, 1900, I found near Barr Lake, Adams Co., Colorado, a set of eleven eggs of the Canvas-back. The eggs were fresh. This is the first record I believe for this bird's breeding in our State.—A. H. FELGER, *Denver, Colo.*

Colorado Notes.—The Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) may now be added to the Colorado avifauna. It is reported by Miss Jennie M. Patten at Yuma, Colo., one specimen being seen on May 27, 1905, under such circumstances that identification was easy and certain. She also reported a Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), but afterwards discovered that it was an escaped cagebird. The same observer reports two Red-eyed Vireos (*Vireo olivaceus*) at the same station on May 27, 1905, and afterwards. Colorado records for this species are meager. Also Baltimore Orioles (*Icterus galbula*) in 1903 and May 22 and 23, 1905.

I watched a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*) for some time at short range near Boulder on May 12, 1905. This is the first record north of Denver in Colorado, so far as I am aware. Bobolinks appeared again this year in some numbers east of Boulder, from which the inference is warranted that they are regular visitants, unnoted until last year.

A male House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*), assisting his mate in raising a family of five nestlings under the roof of our front porch, confirms a long cherished suspicion that lack of red plumage does not always indicate immaturity. His plumage appears to be almost exactly like that of the female. He sings a great deal, with the full song of the male, though at first the song seemed a little weak—perhaps a mere fancy engendered by the apparently immature plumage. He had several fights with a highly colored male when nest building first began, and his mate then fought more valiantly than he did.

*Songs of Female Birds*.—Ornithological literature seems to say very little about the nesting songs of female birds, or I have been unfortunate

in my quest for information upon the subject. When a friend, some years ago, told me he had closely watched a female Black-headed Grosbeak (*Zamelodia melanocephala*) on the nest singing as heartily as the male, I was quite skeptical, but am now inclined to believe him, except that he may have exaggerated the quality of the song. Last year I asked a number of western ornithologists if they had noticed the nesting song of the female House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*) and was answered in the negative, yet it has a distinct, well defined song in Boulder, Colorado, at least, and it is not likely to differ in this respect elsewhere. I have watched several pairs about my home and vicinity, and in every instance have found the same song. It is an exact repetition of the first part of the male's usual song, from two to six notes, cut short at the end and repeated over and over in great excitement, the performance continuing thus for some moments at a time, often for a quarter or half hour. In each instance this has been a daily occurrence from the time the last egg was laid until after the young birds left the shell, generally while the bird was on the nest, though sometimes while in the vines or on the housetop, the male often joining in with the full song, making a remarkable duet. The tones can scarcely be distinguished from those of the male after a few days of practice. The excitement of the bird during these concerts is something that must be seen to be appreciated, increasing from day to day until the hatching of the eggs causes so much work that vocal efforts are neglected.

*Denis Gale.*—The name of Denis Gale will bring to the mind of many ornithologists, particularly those who have worked in the mountains of Colorado, the picture of an elderly gentleman whose energy in bird study knew no bounds, who was willing to brave wind and heat and cold and storm in his tramps from valley groves to snow-clad mountain crests in the interests of ornithology, whose collections have helped enrich the splendid collections of the Smithsonian Institution, and whose notes were of great assistance to Capt. Bendire and others, for Mr. Gale, while always willing to furnish information to others, was not much given to publishing his observations himself. Failing health stopped his work several years ago, and a few months ago he passed to his eternal rest in Denver. It will no doubt interest ornithologists to know that through the generosity of Mr. Simon Guggenheim, all of Mr. Gale's collections not heretofore sent to the Smithsonian Institution are now deposited in the museum of the University of Colorado, at Boulder, including his valuable notes on migration, food and nesting habits, covering a period of more than ten years in the mountains. The notes are now being transcribed, annotated and indexed by the undersigned, so as to make them available for the use of bird students visiting the University. It occurs to me that a note of this in 'The Auk' would be appreciated by those who are familiar with Mr. Gale's work.—JUNIUS HENDERSON, *University of Colorado, Boulder, Col.*